

**Appl. No. 10/038,798
Amdt. dated February 10, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 10, 2004**

REMARKS

I. CLAIM STATUS

Claims 1-22 were pending. Claims 1, 4, 5, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16 and 18 have been amended. Claims 10 and 15 have been canceled. Claims 1-9, 11-14, and 16-22 are therefore pending.

II. CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The examiner objected to claim 9 as erroneously employing the term "circuit board" instead of "computer system." Applicants appreciate the examiner's attention to detail. In this case, however, the term "circuit board" is correct. Claim 9 is intended to cover the case where the circuit board is a system board, and the claim has been amended accordingly.

III. CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-3, 8-12 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,510,473 ("Voit") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6782,438 ("Duncan"). Claim 7 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Voit in view of Duncan and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,678,065 ("Lee").

Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate a zener device limitation from dependent claim 4, which has been indicated to be allowable. Applicants cannot find this limitation in the cited art and respectfully submit that this claim is now allowable, along with its rejected dependent claims 2-3 and 7-9.

Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate a zener diode limitation from dependent claim 13, which has been indicated to be allowable. Applicants cannot find this limitation in the cited art and respectfully submit that this claim is now allowable, along with its rejected dependent claim 12.

Claim 15 has been canceled.

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IV. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 4-6, 13-14 and 16-22 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim. Applicants acknowledge the examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in these claims. These claims have been treated as provided below:

Claim 4 depends from claim 1, which is believed allowable as argued previously.

Claim 5 has been amended into independent form, rendering it allowable along with its dependent claim 6.

Claim 13 depends from claim 11, which is believed allowable as argued previously.

Claim 14 has been amended into independent form, rendering it allowable.

Claim 16 has been amended into independent form, rendering it allowable along with its dependent claims 17 and 20-22.

Claim 18 has been amended into independent form, rendering it allowable along with its dependent claim 19.

V. CONCLUSION

In the course of the foregoing discussions, applicants may have at times referred to claim limitations in shorthand fashion, or may have focused on a particular claim element. This discussion should not be interpreted to mean that the other limitations can be ignored or dismissed. The claims must be viewed as a whole, and each limitation of the claims must be considered when determining the patentability of the claims. Moreover, it should be understood that there may be other distinctions between the claims and the cited art which have yet to be raised, but which may be raised in the future.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of

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time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



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